DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services 7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-26-12 Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



Center for Medicaid and State Operations

SEP 2 7 2002

Ms. Mary Noel, Bureau Chief Health Care Resources Bureau Department of Public Health and Human Services P.O. Box 202951 Helena, MT 59620-2951

Dear Ms. Noel:

We are pleased to inform you that the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) State Plan Amendment submitted on July 1, 2002, has been approved with the clarifications submitted on September 12, 2002. This amendment revises the SCHIP state plan to indicate the State's compliance with the final SCHIP regulations and to update program descriptions. This amendment also revises the SCHIP state plan to eliminate the provision of the mental health benefits that were being provided in excess of the benchmark-equivalent benefit package.

Your title XXI project officer is Ms. Johanna Barraza-Cannon. She is available to answer questions concerning this amendment and other SCHIP-related issues. Ms. Barraza-Cannon's contact information is as follows:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Center for Medicaid and State Operations Mail Stop S2-05-25 7500 Security Boulevard Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850

Telephone: (410) 786-7969 Facsimile: (410) 786-3517

E-mail: jbarrazacannon@cms.hhs.gov

Official communications regarding program matters should be sent simultaneously to Ms. Barraza-Cannon and to Mr. Mark Gilbert, Associate Regional Administrator in our Denver Regional Office.

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Mr. Gilbert's address is:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Division of Medicaid and State Operations 1600 Broadway Suite 700 Denver, CO 80202

If you have additional questions, please contact Mr. Richard Chambers, Director, Family and Children's Health Programs Group, Center for Medicaid and State Operations at (410) 786-5647.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff.

Sincerely,

Dennis G. Smith

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Director

cc: CMS Region VIII, Denver